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City of Taylorsville
Special City Council Meeting
Minutes

Wednesday, January 10, 2018
Council Chambers
2600 West Taylorsville Blvd.
Taylorsville, Utah 84129

Attendance

Mayor Kristie Overson

Council Members:

Chairman Chair Brad Christopherson
Vice-Chairman Daniel Armstrong
Council Member Meredith Harker
Council Member Dama Ernest Burgess

City Staff:

John Taylor, City Administrator
Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder
Scott Harrington, Chief Financial Officer
Kris Heineman, Council Coordinator
Tracy Cowdell, City Attorney
Tiffany Janzen, Public Information Officer
Mark McGrath, Community Development Director
Wayne Harper, Economic Development Director

Others: Eric Behunin, Curt Cochran, Scott Cold, Dan Fazzini, Jennifer Kester, Jeanaea Lorton, Marc McElreath, David Torres, Gregory Vander Werff, Carl Fauver, David Rogers, Rhetta McLiff, Brett McLiff, John Gidney, Terry Lynn Gidney, Anna Barbieri, Lynette Wendel, Jerry Milne, Shirley Milne, Morris Pratt, Gabriel Lorton, Maria Luisa Torres, David Young, Aimee Winder Newton, Darwin Cottle

1. Welcome, Introduction and Preliminary Matters – Chair Christopherson

Chairman Brad Christopherson called the Special City Council Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. City Recorder Cheryl Peacock Cottle conducted a Roll Call, wherein all Council Members were present.

1.1 Opening Ceremonies – *Council Member Harker*

Council Member Meredith Harker conducted the pledge of allegiance.

[6:04:20 PM](#) David Rogers offered the reverence.

2. **Resolution No. 18-05 – A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Appointing Mayor Kristie S. Overson to Represent the City of Taylorsville on the Unified Fire Authority Board of Directors and the Unified Fire Service Area Board of Trustees – *John Taylor***

[6:05:18 PM](#) City Administrator John Taylor presented the subject resolution to appoint Mayor Kristie Overson as the City's representative on both the Unified Fire Authority Board of Directors and the Unified Fire Service Area Board of Trustees.

[6:05:49 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 18-05, as outlined. Council Member Meredith Harker **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a vote. The vote was as follows: Harker-yes, Christopherson-yes, Burgess-yes, and Armstrong-yes. All City Council members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

3. **Resolution No. 18-06 – A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Appointing Scott Harrington to Represent the City of Taylorsville on the Salt Lake Valley Emergency Communication Center Board of Trustees – *John Taylor***

City Administrator John Taylor presented the subject resolution to appoint Assistant City Manager Scott Harrington as the City's representative on the Salt Lake Valley Emergency Communication Center Board of Trustees.

[6:06:35 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 18-06, as outlined. Council Member Meredith Harker **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a vote. The vote was as follows: Harker-yes, Christopherson-yes, Burgess-yes, and Armstrong-yes. All City Council members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Resolution No. 18-07 – A Resolution of the City of Taylorsville Appointing Brad Christopherson to Represent the City of Taylorsville on the Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District Administrative Control Board – *John Taylor*

City Administrator John Taylor presented the subject resolution to appoint Council Chairman Brad Christopherson as the City's representative on the Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District Administrative Control Board.

[6:07:12 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 18-07, as outlined. Council Member Meredith Harker **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a vote. The vote was as follows: Harker-yes, Christopherson-yes, Burgess-yes, and Armstrong-yes. All City Council members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Interview of Applicants for the Position of City Council Member with Respect to District #2 – *John Taylor*

[6:07:19 PM](#) Mayor Kristie Overson thanked those applicants who have applied to fill the vacant Council District 2 seat. She stated that the applicants offer impressive qualifications and noted that the Council has a difficult task before them. She wished everyone good luck.

[6:08:22 PM](#) City Administrator John Taylor described the process for interviewing and selecting a new Council Member to represent District 2.

[6:10:48 PM](#) Applicant Eric Behunin gave an opening/introductory statement.

[6:13:05 PM](#) Applicant Curt Cochran gave an opening/introductory statement.

[6:16:37 PM](#) Applicant Dan Fazzini gave an opening/introductory statement.

[6:19:37 PM](#) Applicant Jeanaea Lorton gave an opening/introductory statement.

[6:22:55 PM](#) Applicant Gregory Vander Werff gave an opening/introductory statement.

[6:26:14 PM](#) Applicant Marc McElreath gave an opening/introductory statement.

[6:28:21 PM](#) Applicant Scott Cold gave an opening/introductory statement.

[6:31:21 PM](#) Applicant Jennifer Kester gave an opening/introductory statement.

[6:33:18 PM](#) Applicant David Torres gave an opening/introductory statement.

[6:36:55 PM](#) The Council was polled and it was relayed that the top four candidates are: Eric Behunin, Curt Cochran, Marc McElreath, and David Torres.

[6:46:30 PM](#) Mr. Taylor asked each of the four remaining applicants the following question: “In your opinion, what is going well in the City of Taylorsville? What would you change?”

[6:46:43 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[6:48:30 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[6:50:30 PM](#) Marc McElreath answered the question.

[6:52:11 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

Mr. Taylor asked each applicant the following question: “If you were appointed to the City Council, what legislative issues and priorities are you most interested in pursuing?”

[6:55:25 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

[6:56:08 PM](#) Marc McElreath answered the question.

[6:57:28 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[7:00:34 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[7:03:30 PM](#) Mr. Taylor asked each applicant the following: “Please share your past service to the City, either as an appointed volunteer, a community project participant, or in any other capacity.”

[7:03:41 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

[7:04:33 PM](#) Marc McElreath answered the question.

[7:05:23 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[7:08:13 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[7:09:29 PM](#) Chair Christopherson called for a brief recess.

[7:21:03 PM](#) The meeting was reconvened at 7:21 p.m.

[7:21:48 PM](#) Mr. Taylor asked each applicant the following question: “Please discuss your ability to dedicate sufficient time to this service position (approximately 20 to 30 hours per week).”

[7:21:56 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[7:23:10 PM](#) Marc McElreath answered the question.

[7:23:56 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

[7:24:59 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[7:25:56 PM](#) Mr. Taylor asked each applicant the following question: “Please provide an example of your greatest accomplishment or an activity of which you are most proud.”

[7:26:07 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[7:29:32 PM](#) Marc McElreath answered the question.

[7:31:16 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

[7:33:51 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[7:35:40 PM](#) Council Members took a few minutes to review their notes. City Attorney Tracy Cowdell noted that any discussion or deliberation regarding candidates must be done in open.

[7:40:05 PM](#) Each Council Member listed their top two choices. The top three choices from the Council’s poll were Mr. Behunin, Mr. Torres and Mr. Cochran. All three moved on to the next round of questioning.

[7:40:18 PM](#) Mr. Taylor asked each of the three applicants the following question: “What is your fiscal philosophy? Under what circumstances would you consider tax increases and/or bonding?”

[7:41:19 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[7:42:12 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[7:43:30 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

[7:43:55 PM](#) Mr. Taylor asked each applicant the following question: “Why should you be appointed?”

[7:44:24 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[7:45:35 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[7:47:56 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

[7:50:36 PM](#) Mr. Cowdell explained the voting process and noted that State law requires a majority vote, which means at least three out of four votes.

[7:52:16 PM](#) Council Member Meredith Harker asked each applicant to respond to the following question: “What are your ideas to improve communication with residents?”

[7:53:03 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[7:54:43 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

[7:55:14 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[7:56:44 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burgess asked applicants about their ability to accept varying opinions among Council Members, to move forward from split decisions, and to work together in unity and harmony.

[7:57:34 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

[7:58:30 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[7:59:49 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[8:01:53 PM](#) Discussion ensued regarding the difficulty of choosing from among the three finalists.

[8:03:37 PM](#) Jenea Lorton stated that she has worked with Mr. Torres. She offered her high recommendation and endorsement of him.

[8:04:36 PM](#) Curt Cochran made a closing statement and agreed that all three candidates could do a good job. He noted the importance of selecting someone who has experiencing in overseeing budgets.

[8:05:36 PM](#) David Torres made a closing statement and stressed his ability to create unity.

[8:06:32 PM](#) Eric Behunin made a closing statement, citing his professional experience and his strong desire to work with the Council.

[8:08:09 PM](#) Each Council Member voted for one person and City Recorder Cheryl Cottle announced the results, as follows: two votes for Mr. Cochran, one vote for Mr. Behunin, and one vote for Mr. Torres.

Mr. Cowdell and Mr. Taylor discussed the process to obtain a majority of three votes.

[8:12:45 PM](#) Chair Christopherson spoke regarding the reasons he supports Mr. Behunin.

[8:14:19 PM](#) Council Member Merdith Harker spoke about the difficulty of the decision. She stated reasons that she voted for Mr. Cochran and stressed the value of his vast experience with the city.

[8:15:33 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong spoke about the city's changing population and said he voted for Mr. Torres because of his understanding of current problems and his time availability.

[8:16:51 PM](#) Council Member Ernest Burgess stated that he feels voting for Mr. Cochran is the right thing to do.

[8:18:08 PM](#) Council Member Meredith Harker asked each of the applicants about their intent for the long haul and whether they would consider running for election in 2019.

[8:18:56 PM](#) Curt Cochran answered the question.

[8:19:43 PM](#) Eric Behunin answered the question.

[8:21:11 PM](#) David Torres answered the question.

[8:22:34 PM](#) Mr. Cowdell suggested taking a final vote to try and reach a majority of at least three votes.

[8:25:49 PM](#) Chair Christopherson declared a three-minute recess.

[8:31:49 PM](#) The meeting was reconvened at 8:31 p.m.

[8:32:34 PM](#) Chair Christopherson commented that either of the two remaining candidates would do a great job.

[8:34:07 PM](#) Mr. Cowdell gave further explanation on options at this point.

[8:34:44 PM](#) Voting took place, as follows: Chair Christopherson voted for Mr. Behunin; Council Members Armstrong, Burgess and Harker voted for Mr. Cochran.

5.1 Ordinance No. 18-01 – An Ordinance of the City of Taylorsville Appointing an Individual to Fill the Mid-Term Vacancy on the City Council with Respect to District #2 – Tracy Cowdell

[8:35:34 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong **MOVED** to adopt Ordinance No. 18-01, with the appointment of Curt Cochran to fill the mid-term vacancy with respect to District #2. Council Member Ernest Burgess **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a vote. The vote was as follows: Harker-yes, Christopherson-yes, Armstrong-yes, and Burgess-yes. All City Council members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

[8:36:16 PM](#) Chair Christopherson thanked all those who applied for the Council vacancy and noted that the Council will now put its full support behind Mr. Cochran to represent Council District #2.

[8:36:40 PM](#) Discussion was held regarding when to administer the oath of office to Mr. Cochran. Mr. Cowdell explained that Mr. Cochran is officially appointed to the Council as of tonight and taking the oath of office will simply be ceremonial. It was determined to hold a swearing-in ceremony for Mr. Cochran prior to the January 17th Council Meeting.

[8:38:16 PM](#) Curt Cochran took his place with other Council Members and thanked all of the other applicants. He offered to share his contact information with everyone.

6. Other Matters

There were no other matters for discussion.

7. Adjournment

[8:39:13 PM](#) Council Member Dan Armstrong **MOVED** to adjourn the Special City Council Meeting. Council Member Meredith Harker **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Christopherson called for discussion on the motion. There being none, he called for a vote. The vote was as follows: Harker-yes, Christopherson-yes, Burgess-yes, and Armstrong-yes. **All City Council members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder

Minutes approved: CC 02-07-18

Minutes Prepared by: Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder